

**REMARKS**

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 3 and 31 have been amended.

Claims 1-33 are pending and under consideration.

Claims 3 and 31 have been amended to resolve minor grammatical errors. It is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be entered.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner's contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

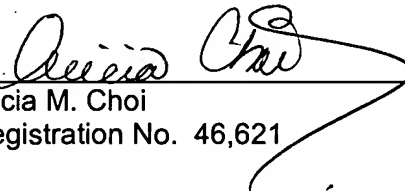
If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: August 19, 2004

By:

  
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